

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-14 are all the claims pending in the application.

The editorial matters raised with respect to the Abstract and claims have been corrected by the amendments above.

The prior art rejection is respectfully traversed and is further believed overcome by the amendments made to claim 1.

The present invention is directed to a novel resonator filter structure, wherein a slot is formed in a wall separating adjacent cavities and a coupling member extends into the slot from an edge thereof. This structure is reflected in the language of claim 1. As shown in the figures of the present case, the "slot" is open to the top surface of the cavities but not to the bottom, i.e., the vertical dimension of the slot is less than the distance between the cavity top and bottom walls, and this has been clarified by an amendment to claim 1.

Liang et al discloses coupling through an aperture, but in all cases the aperture is a slot which extends the complete distance from top to bottom walls. There is nothing in Liang et al '033 or in any of the other cited art which would have led the ordinarily skilled artisan to reduce the vertical dimension of the slot.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
USSN 10/815,719

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

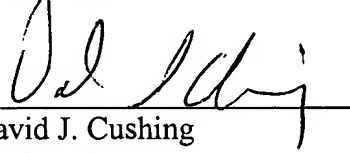
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Date: August 16, 2005